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## 2016 AQ Summit: Innovation Update by Isabelle Gendron-Lemieux

Isabelle Gendron-Lemieux

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# Innovations in Seaweed Culture in Quebec

## *An overview*

**Isabelle Gendron-Lemieux *et al.***

Project coordinator and Biologist

Merinov

January 7, 2016

# Research programme -1



## 2012-2017: Industrial Research Chair Grant from NSERC on seaweeds (2012-2017)

### 1. Harvest of wild resources

- a. *Gather available data on seaweed beds*
- b. *Improve acoustic detection techniques*
- c. *Develop new tools for seaweed harvest*

### 2. Cultivation on marine farms

- a. *Optimization and scaling up*
- b. *Co-cultivation shellfish-seaweeds*
- c. *Master cultivation techniques for more sp.*

### 3. Processing and product development

- a. *Food industry*
- b. *Nutraceuticals / pharmaceuticals*
- c. *Composite biomaterials*

**9 researchers & teachers  
6 partner companies**



**Biotaag International inc.**



**PRO-ALGUE MARINE INC.**



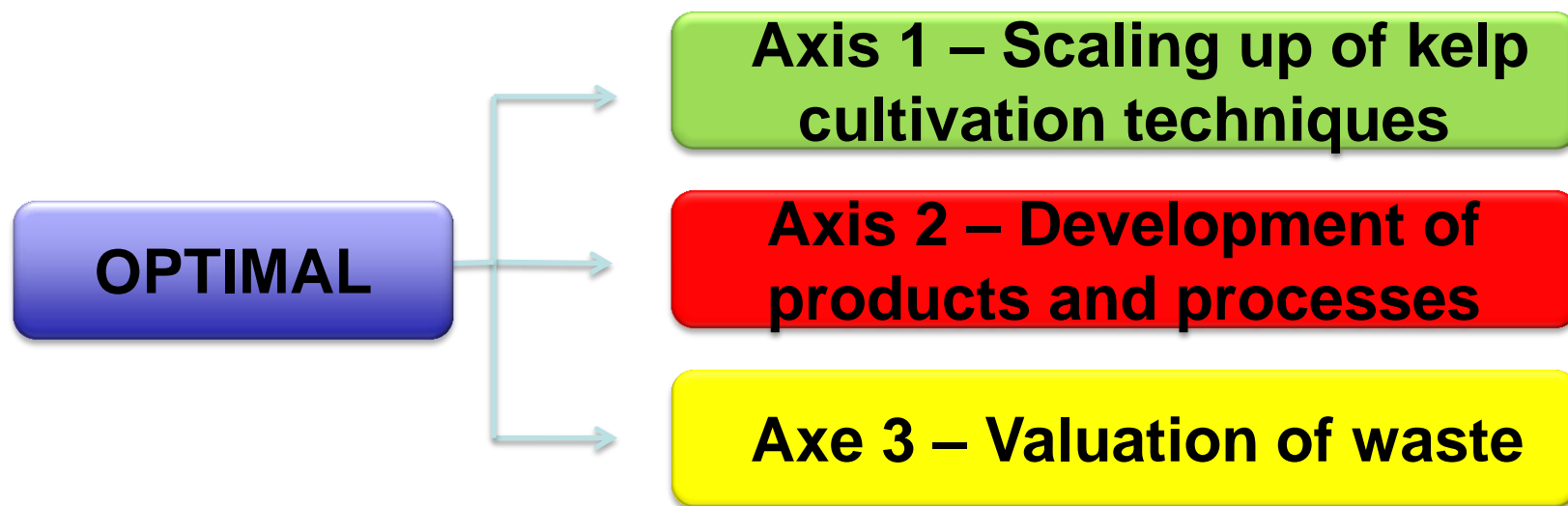
**SCF Pharma**

Chair Head: Éric Tamigneaux

# Research programme - 2



2014-2019: R&D programme on cultivated *S. latissima*



Industrial partners



R&D partners

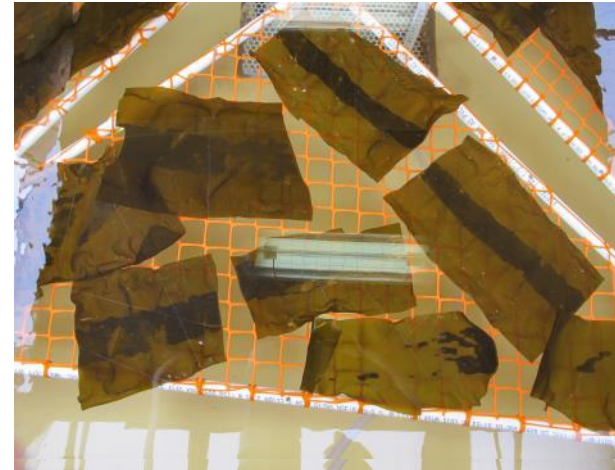




## Obtaining spore producing tissue

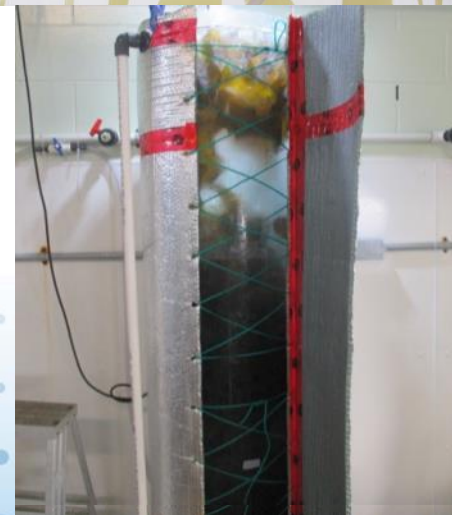


32-33 days



### Alternate conditioning method

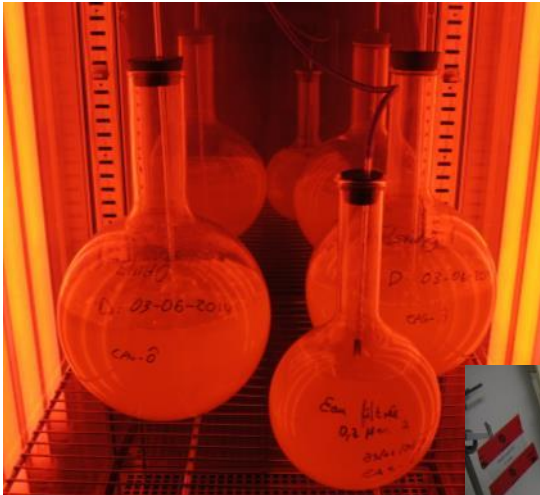
- Reduce floor space required
- Obtain more sorus tissue
- 35 days



# KELP PRODUCTION - HATCHERY



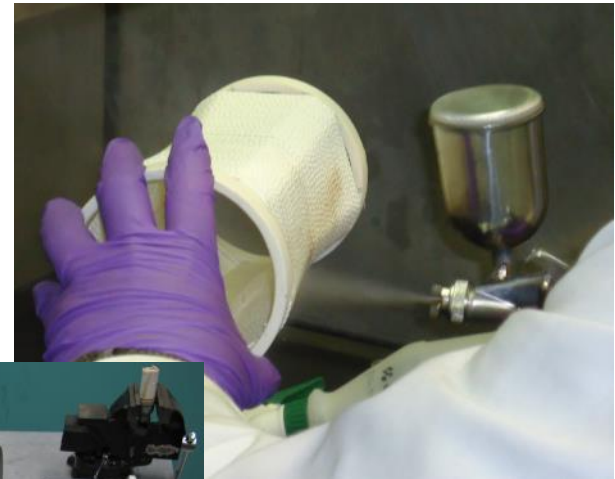
## Free-living



58 + 13 days



## Seeding



Meanwhile....



Will Nicolas and Murray, H

# KELP PRODUCTION - HATCHERY



## Pilot scaling up and direct seeding



Research



Private hatchery





## Optimisation of hatchery procedures



### Seeding density (free-living)

- **Goal:** Optimal amount of gametophytes to seed on spools
- **Densities tested:**
  - 6, 4, 2 and 0,5 g gametophyte/spools



# KELP PRODUCTION - HATCHERY



## Culture media

**Goal:** Identify the medium that is the least expensive and gives the best growth

### **Media tested:**

- f/2, nitrate+phosphate, PES and Miracle Gro

## Water disinfection

**Goal:** Identify the technique that is the least labour intensive and prevents contamination

### **Techniques tested:**

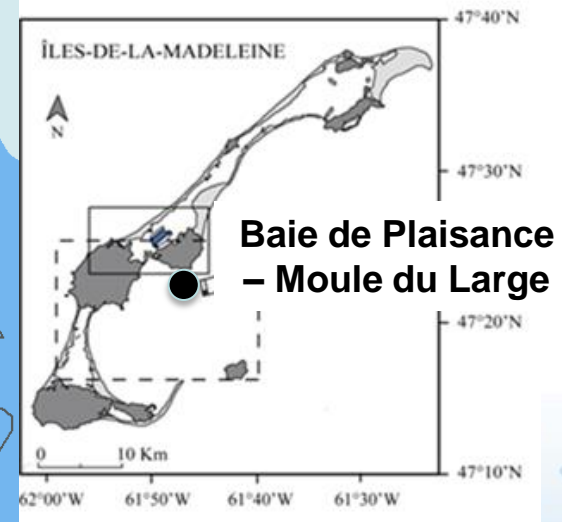
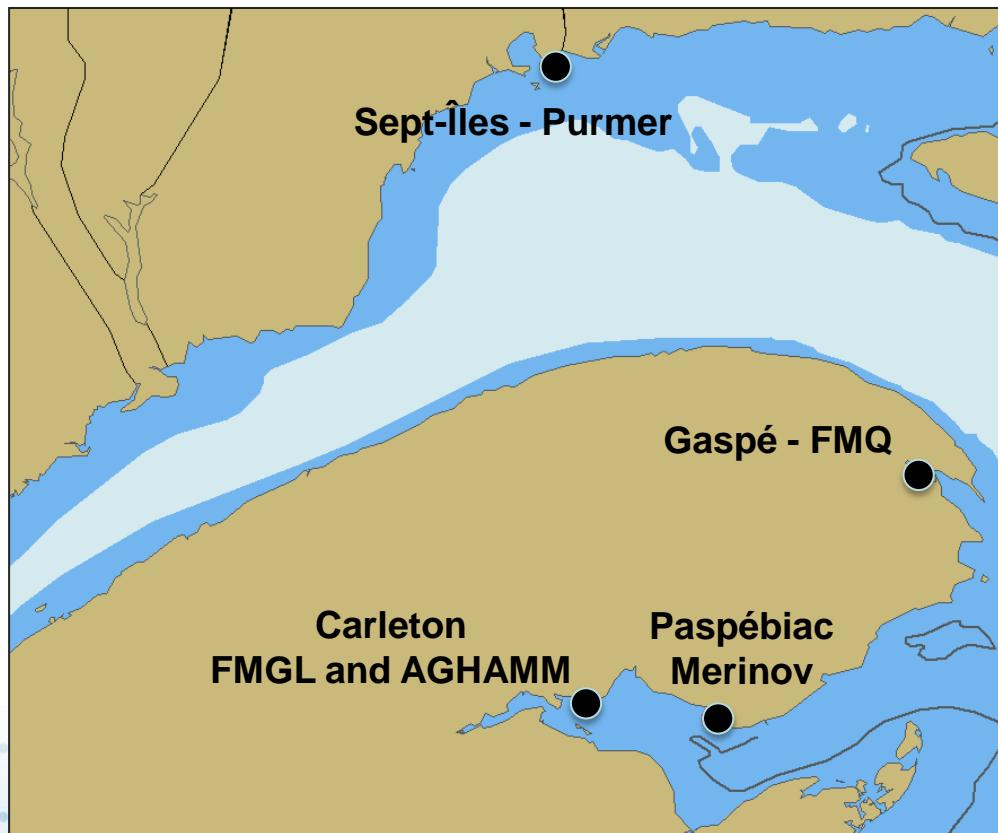
- Filtration and UV, pasteurization, salinity, chlorine and acid



# KELP PRODUCTION – AT SEA



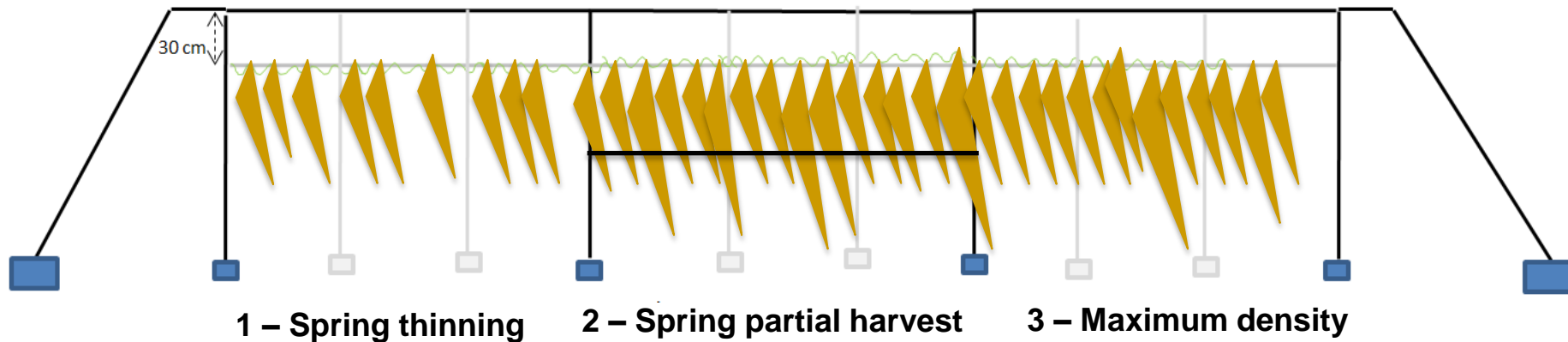
## Testing new culture sites



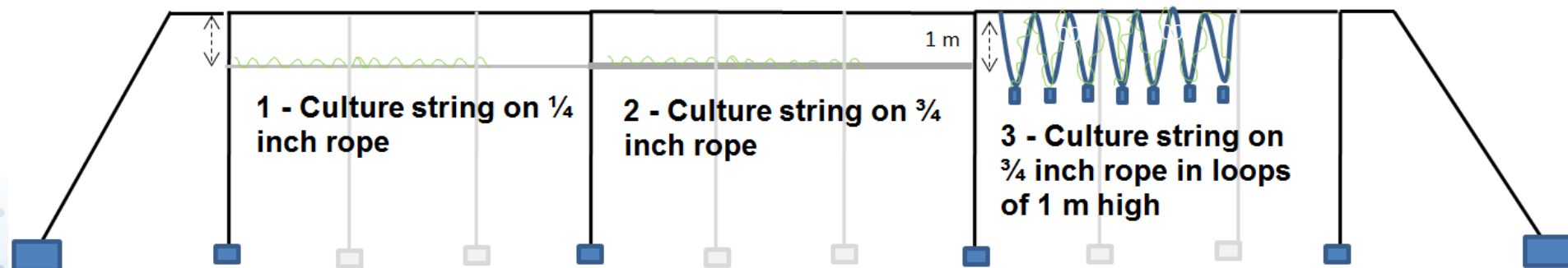
# KELP PRODUCTION – AT SEA



## Harvesting strategies vs yields



## Culture gears vs yields



# DIVERSIFICATION

## Working on other sp. with commercial potential



***Chorda filum***

Annual summer sp.  
Few information



***Saccorhiza dermatodea***

Annual arctic sp.  
Few information



***Laminaria digitata***



***A. esculenta***



## Laboratory scale work (Summer 2015)

- D-mannitol extractions of samples taken at the various sites throughout the summer from May to July

### Other tests

- Fucoxanthine,  $\beta$ -carotenes and violaxanthine
- Phlorotannin

## Scaling up (Winter-Summer 2016)

- Identify the best sequence to extract the various molecules of interest

## DRYING

### Conventional air drying

- Low T°C (40-50°C)
- Simple
- Higher cost at the industrial level ;
- Loss of certain vitamins ;
- Alteration of food taste



### Contained Zeodration

- Vaccum drying improved by the absorption of water by zeolites;
- Very soft drying operation;
- The product keeps gustatory, olfactory, visual and nutritional quality.



### Instant controlled pressure drop (D.I.C.)

- Short treatment (30 to 60 s)
- Ends with a drastic and rapid pressure drop that generates the water extraction, drying and texturing of the product (swell - drying)
- Increasing the availability of bioactive molecules



Berger, K. and Michaud, H

# FOOD PRODUCTS R&D



## FRESH SEAWEED IN TRAYSEALING IN MODIFIED ATMOSPHERE (MAP)



## SMOKED SEAWEED



## COLD-PASTEURIZED SEAWEED High Pressure Process (HPP)



## SEAWEED PRODUCTS BY TECHNOLOGY OF EXTRUSION COOKING



Berger, K. and Michaud, H

## SENSORY ANALYSIS

- Evaluate the general acceptability and quality attributes of the seaweed products : general appearance, colour, odour, flavour, texture
- Expert sensory evaluation : **MERINOV**
- Consumer panel : **CINTECH**





## **Where we are at...**

- Seaweed Culture
  - Transferring to industry and scaling up (hatchery/at sea)
  - Reducing production costs
  - Demonstrating feasibility and adapting culture methods to various climatic and industrial contexts
  - Developing culture techniques for more sp
- Kelp processing
  - Identifying the products and processes to obtain maximum value from kelp biomass
  - Building a network of specialists to develop an integrated production chain



**merinov**

CENTRE D'INNOVATION DE L'AQUACULTURE ET DES PÊCHES DU QUÉBEC



**MERCI DE VOTRE ATTENTION !**

